

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for rerouting a wireless message to locate a
2 destination device service provider, comprising:
3 requesting to send a wireless message from a sending device that
4 uses a first service provider to a destination device that uses a second
5 service provider, said request referencing a phone number for the
6 destination device;
7 identifying potential service providers for the destination device
8 based on the phone number;
9 sending a ping message to each service provider identified as a
10 potential service provider; and
11 sending the message to the destination device via a service
12 provider that successfully responds to the ping message sent to it.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising reformatting the
2 message from a first message format used by the first service provider to
3 a second message format used by the second service provider.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 looking up a target service provider in a database mapping wireless
3 device phone numbers to wireless device providers; and

4 sending the message via a service provider that is mapped to the
5 phone number of the destination device.

1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 maintaining a phone map table the maps wireless device phone
3 numbers to corresponding service providers; and
4 updating the phone map table to map the destination device phone
5 number to any service providers that successfully respond to the ping
6 message sent to it.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a failure
2 message back to the sending device if not service provider successfully
3 responds to any of the ping messages.

1 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising recording a
2 transaction corresponding to a successfully sent message, said
3 transaction identifying the service providers used in rerouting the
4 message.

1 7. A method for rerouting a message sent from a sending device
2 while roaming, comprising:
3 requesting to send a message while roaming from the sending
4 device to a destination device;

5 routing the message to a message center corresponding to a
6 roaming carrier that currently provides wireless access service for the
7 sending device;
8 intercepting the message and redirecting it to a different SMSC
9 (short messaging service center) than an SMSC corresponding to a home
10 carrier for the sending device; and
11 routing the message to the different SMSC to be delivered to the
12 destination device.

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